

March 2016 Volume 63, Issue 3

### The Mint Master



### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE—MARCH

Some of us collect coins for the fun of completing a collection, and some of us have fun collecting to learn about the coins we collect and their history. Phil Clark does both of these and spoke during our last meeting about modern coins and his collecting interest with knowledge many of us including myself will never have. I certainly enjoyed Phil's talk as I know that all of you did. We are very lucky to have such a great club with members such as Phil who are willing to share their knowledge with us. I have the greatest respect for Phil and all of you who help may the UNS a great club. Thank again Phil for a great talk.

It is time again to have another UNS auction. If you have something you want to auction make sure you attend our March meeting. If possible please be early so you can log and mark your items so be can begin on time. Bob Campbell will be there to start things off. If you have your items already identified please email them to Doug Nyholm to avoid the rush. Remember if you have items to sell please try to put reasonable reserves on them as we hope to have a high sell-through and have a minimum of items go back to the consignor. 10% of hammer will go to the UNS and as always, bring a friend, our auction is always exciting.

Larry N. Nielsen

### 2016 ANNUAL DUES <u>FINAL</u> NOTICE

try and pay early as it Burton our easier.

Davis, our MEMBERSHIP treasurer and Lavar RENEWAL Annual Dues

Remember, the new year kicks off our membership and dues notice. Please your annual dues definitely makes Tom secretary's jobs much

### FEBRUARY'S AGENDA

Greetings	.Larry Nielsen
Mini Exhibit	Tom Davis
News & Views	.Bob Campbell
Coin Quiz	.Lee McKenzie
Refreshments	Sandy Richins

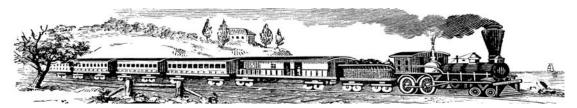
### HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE THIS

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### **Brigham Young Railroad Passes**

**Doug Nyholm** 



Pictured later in this article are 34 different railroad passes all made out to Brigham Young. These were purchased as a complete collection without any details about them. Questions are: Why are they all signed for the use of Brigham Young, and why were they all dated 1872. Even a more interesting question is are the locations of the railroads represented virtually from every geographical location in the United States? One is even from eastern Canada! All of the passes also indicate Brigham Young being president of the "Utah Central Railroad." Definitely there are more questions than answers.

Also to be noted, none of the Brigham Young signatures are that of Brigham Young but apparently they were all made out to him. So what do we know about these? First, railroad passes are actively collected and I spoke to Fred Holabird who stated that his auction company has sold literally thousands of individual passes in the past several years. Most of the passes sold are individual but he did note that there were a few groupings. Of these collections or groupings most, if not all, were put together by the issuer or signer and not to the recipient. One particularly valuable railroad pass category are those signed by Leland Stanford issuing passes with his signature for the Central Pacific Railroad. Unfortunately his signature or a pass from this railroad is not included in this collection. On the other hand in regard to a personality that a pass was issued to there is probably no other dignitary more notable than Brigham Young.

The next question and probably the most mysterious one is why? Why would so many varied passes be issued to Brigham Young? Another point brought up by Fred Holabird is that these passes were generally fairly costly in regard to face value. After all, a individual pass would allow the recipient to travel at no cost and with unlimited trips on the noted railroad, assuming of course that the pass was complimentary and they did not purchase it to begin with. There were also passes that were sold presumably to individuals who traveled extensively on a particular line such as salesman, bankers, or similar professions. But back to the original question as to why Brigham Young would have 34 of these passes? Railroads often reciprocated between themselves by essentially trading passes within themselves as a courtesy between executives to allow each of them to travel within their individual areas of operation. During this time there were probably hundreds of different railroads with the vast majority of them being regional. Many of them with less than 100 miles of track. So for instance if one wanted to travel several hundred

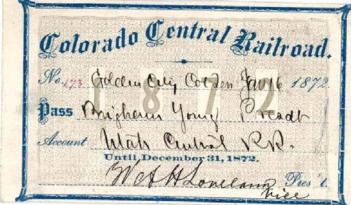
miles, possibly within several states it would most likely be necessary to transfer from one railroad to another. Therefore an executive would need multiple passes in order to easily travel as a courtesy of these railroads. This would make it seem more probably that a dignitary or executive would definitely have a number of passes in his area of business. But this collection naming Brigham Young covered California to Rhode Island, Canada and almost everything in between. In checking the year 1872, Brigham definitely did not travel anywhere near this extensively. Could this collection be complimentary passes given to Brigham Young just because he was the President of the "Utah Central Railroad?" And could Brigham Young have given passes to the Presidents of these and possibly other railroads as a courtesy. Unless someone comes forth with a pass from one of these railroads with the issuing name of Brigham Young we may never know, however it certainly seems possible to me.

As far as value, that is probably a more difficult question to answer. In checking on EBay there are numerous passes from as low as \$10 to several hundred dollars. This question was also posed to Fred Holabird who stated that he has seen passes, especially those with notable signatures (like Leland Stanford) sell for close to \$1000 each. It also takes only two bidders at auction to push the final hammer to a crazy price. I once attended an auction at Heritage that had a MS-65 early quarter dollar with a pre-sale estimate of \$100,000, it hammered slightly over \$300,000 because there were two floor bidders who both wanted that coin and in my opinion had way more money than brains! Fred stated he has seen this happen on railroad passes, definitely on a smaller scale. It is similar also to National Currency. National Currency is similar in this aspect to railroad passes in that they have regional or city interest. Someone from Rock Island may just have to have that Rock Island railroad pass from 1870. So who knows what these Brigham Young issued passes are worth. There are certainly a lot of collectors who would be interested in one or all of them. Next question about value, would the entire collection be worth more than all of them sold separately? It is always interesting to me and historically significant to attempt to keep one of a kind collections together. Some collections, once broken up may never be able to be reassembled. This is why I am somewhat sad when proof sets from the 1860's or 70's are sold individually. Why is this done? Money! Almost always the individual prices of such proof sets always exceed the price for the whole set. Some collectors collect proof quarters, others collect proof dimes etc. and they don't want the other denominations. The same is probably true with this collection of railroad passes made to Brigham Young.

None-the-less this is certainly an interesting collection of which I nor most people I have spoken with have never seen the likes of before. I wanted to picture the entire collection here because again one like it has never been documented before.











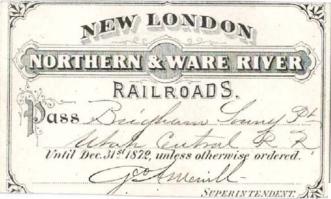


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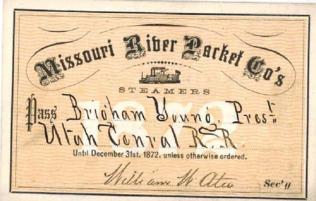








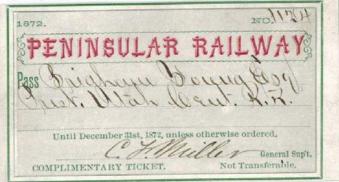




















To add to the story I did some research on the "Utah Central Railroad." This railroad was constructed due to the fact that the Transcontinental Railroad to be joined together in Promontory Utah essentially bypassed Salt Lake City. The golden spike was driven on May 10, 1869. Brigham Young organized the "Utah Central Railroad Company" on March 8, 1869 with capitol stock of \$1,500,00 or 15,000 shares valued at \$50 each. Brigham Young was president with his son Joseph as superintendent. The track would be laid by way of Ogden, Corinne, Promontory and Salt Lake City. Construction began in Ogden on September 22, 1869 with 36.34 miles of track to Salt Lake. This railroad was the only railroad west of the Missouri River to be build entirely without Government subsidies.



### YOUNG NUMISMATISTS CORNER

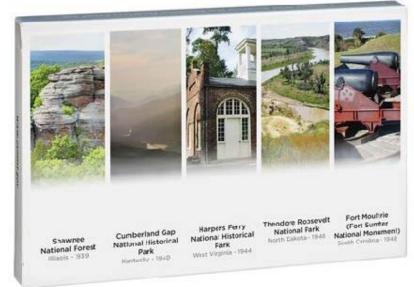
### **NUMIMATIC IMPACT OF US MINT PACKAGING PROBLEMS**



The Mint's Packaging Problems A recent rash of packaging problems experienced by the Mint has adversely impacted planned product availability. These problems should also raise serious questions about the Mint's Sales, Marketing and Quality Control departments and their leadership. The problem of the currency note moving around in the Coin and Currency sets should have been identified in pre-production testing and evaluation. Identified problems should have been corrected prior to full scale production and sales release. Was the Mint too driven to get the product to market? Concerning the 2015 Limited Edition Silver Proof Set, what new packaging issues could arise in the fourth year of the product that would again necessitate delaying release until the next calendar year? Whatever the issues were,

they should have been resolved in a timely fashion so the 2015 product could be released 2015. Now, it will probably never be released, creating a break in series continuity for the collector, because of newly passed legislation which limits the issue of numismatic Silver Eagles in 2016 to those with a smooth (not reeded) edge with incused markings related to the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Eagle program. What will it cost to recycle all of the silver destined for those sets? I'll give you one guess concerning who will bear the cost for the recycling. Mint leadership could have and should have done a better job in drafting proposed language for its long sought after legislation to amend the

legislation requiring silver content to be a hard 90% for silver coinage.



The documentation errors which affected packaging for the ATB Proof Quarters and the Mark Twain Commemorative Silver Dollars programs are inexcusable. Again the costs to correct the errors will be underwritten by the numismatic community and/or designated surcharge payout recipients in the Mark Twain area. I have received my ATB sets and find the pictorial depiction for the Cumberland Gap on the packaging to be a smoggy hard to discern rendition of the Gap. Maybe, they were in too big a rush to get the ATB products to market. While it is difficult to know how much these problems have and will affect the numismatic community, I

believe that the Mint's numismatic revenue/cost center can- not and will not go unscathed and must do everything it can to prevent any recurrence of these types of problems. At this point, I'm glad I never started collecting Limited Edition Silver Proof Sets; but if I had, I'd be getting rid of what I had purchased.

### Stack's Bowers Galleries Presents

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Featuring highlights from the Cramer Collection of Robert Lovett, Jr. Medals and the Collections of the Strong: National Museum of Play, along with other selected highlights



1882 Great Seal Centennial Medal. Bronzed Copper. 62.5 mm. By Charles E. Barber. Julian CM-20. Prooflike Mint State.



1827 First Company Union Guards of New York Testimonial Medal. Gold. 63.7 mm X 57 mm. 21.25 grams. Choice Extremely Fine.



New York--New York. (1833-1835) Rd. Williams Union Hall. W-NY-1080-10a, HT-339, Low-365. Rarity-7+. Copper. Plain Edge. AU-55 (NGC).



(1832) Andrew Jackson. Small Head.Whitman-07-10b, HT-1A, Low-166. Rarity-7. Brass. Diagonally Reeded Edge. AU-55 (NGC).



New York-New York. (1833-1839) Lovett Seal Engraver. W-NY-720-10b, HT-288, Low-263. Rarity-7. Brass. Reeded Edge. MS-62 (NGC).



1834 Glorious Whig Victory. W-08-30e RE, HT-15D, Low-7D. Rarity-7. White Metal. Diagonally Reeded Edge. MS-62 (NGC).



1837 Martin Van Buren Indian Peace Medal. Second Size. Silver. 62.4 mm, 2.9 to 3.0 mm thick. 1,474.1 grains, 95.4 grams. Julian IP-18. Very Fine.



1658 Francois Christophe de Levi, Duc d'Ampville Medal. Silver. 49.7 mm. 597.0 grains. By Jean Hardy. Betts-39, Forrer II:427. Choice Extremely Fine.



(ca. 1867) Eagle Badge of the Society of the Cincinnati. Myers 24. Gold and Enamel. Choice Extremely Fine.



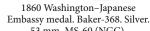
1826 Erie Canal Completion. Silver. 45 mm. HK-1000. Rarity-6. MS-63 (PCGS).



1903 United States Treasury Department Life Saving Medal. Gold. 44.5 mm. 1,980.2 grains (total weight). Julian LS-9. Mint State.



1860 John Bell. DeWitt-JBELL 1860-7. Silver. 28 mm. MS-65 (NGC).



VELLERS



Undated (1860s) Washington– Andrew Jackson. Baker-225 (type). DeWitt-AJACK H(3), Brass. 28 mm. MS-66 (NGC).



1860 Abraham Lincoln. DeWitt-AL 1860-54. Copper. 27 mm. MS-67 RB (NGC).



1864 Benjamin Franklin– Joseph Wharton medal. Greenslet GM-70. Bronze. 53 mm. Mint State.



Undated (c. 1860). Washington– Europe's Abject Kings medal. Baker-108. Copper. 27 mm. MS-65 RB (NGC).



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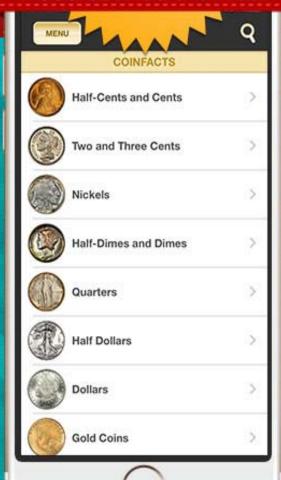
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APPRASIAL NIGHT / FAVORITE COIN

**OOCOBER** 

**AUCTION** 

**NOVEMBER** 

ELECTION '/ GUEST SPEAKER

**DECEMBER** 

**CHRISTMAS** 

### PRIZES FOR FEBRUARY

Youth prize - 2001 gold-toned State Quarter set On-time prize - 4 1932 Washington Quarters Member prize - 2016 Silver Eagle

### **Buy of the Month**

For March's Buy-of-the-Month we have Mint Errors! These are all Lincoln cents that have been struck off-center 70% or more. Several months ago, Kelly Finnegan talked to the club about the minting process and different errors that occur. These are created when the mechanism feeding the planchets into the dies malfunctions and the planchet doesn't make it fully into the collar before it is struck by the die. Only a portion of the planchet then receives the intended design. Very interesting to see, even more interesting after learning about how they happen. These sell for \$10 or more each, but they will be available for \$4 each. There are a couple dozen to choose from - hopefully enough for attendees to purchase as many as you would like. You get to pick so come early to get the best pick.

### **Drawings**

1818 Coronet Head Cent
Civil War token
1971 Canadian Centennial Dollar
Ancient Roman coin
1963 Kennedy Proof Half w/accented hair
2013 Proof Silver Eagle NGC PF69
Canadian Silver Wolf 3/4 oz
British Coin set
1832 Portugal coin
2016 Silver Eagle
1981 Proof Set
1989 Congress Commemorative Half Dollar
Atlanta Olympics Basketball Coin/pin set
Mexico Coin set
Mystery prize(s) ???





BUY \* SELL \* TRADE \* APPRAISALS

Free Children's Drawing Sunday Afternoon.

Raffle for 20 silver dollars and one \$5 gold coin.

Elks Lodge 640 Elva St Idaho Falls ID 83403 Saturday

**April 2, 2016** 10:00 – 6:00 pm

Sunday

**April 3, 2016** 10:00 – 4:00 pm

Present this flyer and receive \$1.00 off admission

Free youth table with coins & games for kids 16 and under.

IND

Eagle Rock Numismatic Society

Admission: \$3 per person, kids 16 and under are free

### May's UNS Meeting Announcement

It's time to start thinking, designing, and sketching your ideas for our 2016 UNS Medal We will be selecting our annual medal at our May meeting!





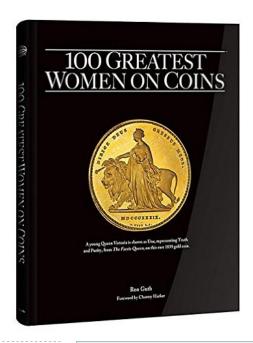






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### "100 Greatest Women On Coins"

The latest book in the series of '100 Greatest' books from Whitman is off the press and currently available for collectors and bibliophiles. This joins several other previously released books, several in their second or third editions outlined above and follows a similar format by depicting not only real women but also mythical and allegorical ladies.

The book is 128 pages and is printed in full color in oversize format as are the previous books.

It is available directly from Whitman book at the retail price of \$29.95 or possibly at your local coin dealer. I have also seen copies at local Banes & Noble booksellers.

Enhance your collecting hobby by acquiring this or any other book of interest and you can learn a great deal more of what makes coins desirable and collectable. Some Notable Women selected for inclusion into this book:

Cleopatra

Martha Washington
Athena

Queen Elizabeth II

Mother Teresa

Dolley Madison

Marilyn Monroe

Princess Diana

As well as allegorical and mythical women such as

Athena Medusa Lady Liberty

And Many others...



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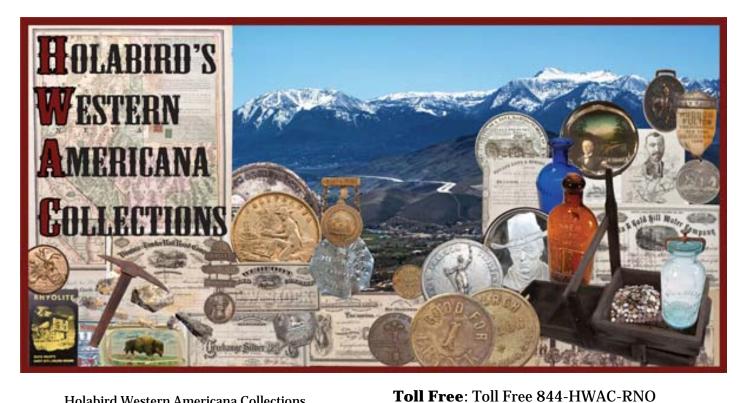
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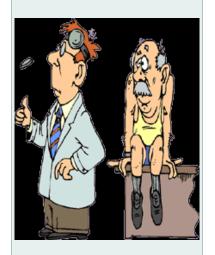
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Eldon Farnsworth	801-



### **HOSPITALITY**

Richard Blaylock 801-LaMar Kemp 801-



### Commemoratives 1892-1954

The Pan-Pac Half shown here was struck in gold before the addition of the "S" mintmark.

There were only 2 struck, both on planned down high relief Saints!

Your editor once held both of them, one in each hand!

### "How much do you know about old commemoratives?"

1.	Who was the first living person to be depicted	on a commemorative half Dollar 1892-1954?		
	A) Governor T.E. Kirby	C) Dwight Eisenhower		
	B) P.T. Barnum	D) George Wallace		
2.	Which commemorative has a fleur-de-lis on it	s reverse?		
	A) New Rochelle	C) Oregon Trail		
	B) Hawaii	D) Lincoln		
3. Anthony de Francisci who designed the Peace Silver dollar also designed a commemo which one?				
	A) Maine	C) Lincoln		
	B) Illinois	D) Bay Bridge		
4. Howard Kenneth Weinman, son of A.A. Weinman, designed which commemorative.				
	A) Long Island	C) Bridgeport		
	B) McKinley	D) Booker T. Washington		
5.	5. Who is the first foreign citizen to appear on a circulating U.S. Coin			

### **Bonus Question—Non Multiple Choice**

What does the 2\*4 in the field of the 1921 Missouri Centennial Half Dollar depict?

No multiple choice here either. Hint - Commemorative Coin



Phil Clark during last month's UNS Presentation

Typical single year offering from the U.S. Mint

### **Coin Quiz Answers**

- 1. Governor T.E. Kirby on the 1921-D Alabama centennial half dollar
- 2. New Rochelle
- 3. Maine
- **4.** Long Island
- **5.** Christopher Columbus on the Columbian Exposition Half dollar of 1892

### **Bonus**

The 24th Star on the U.S. Flag

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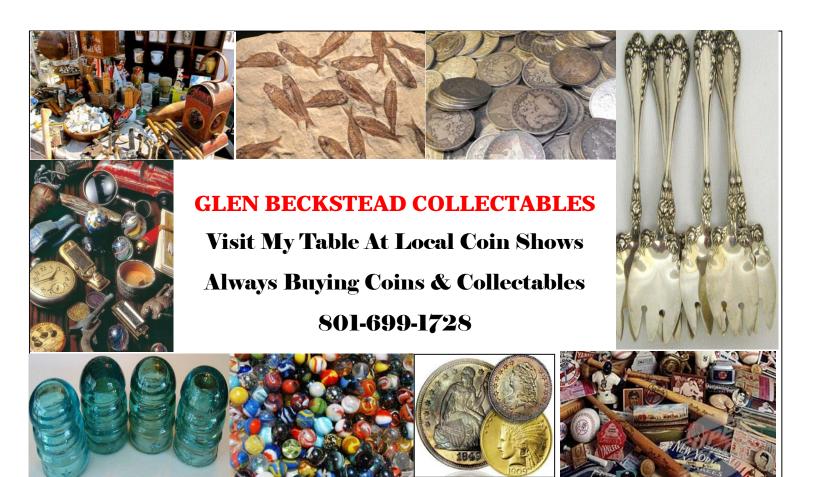
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### Got Stamps?



### Old letters – Old postcards?

Do you have an old collection or accumulation of stuff that you don't know what to do with? *I can help!* Call me to discuss what items you have. Whether you just want to know what the value is or if you want to sell them. We can discuss what options you have to dispose of your items or I can give you a free verbal appraisal based on the current market value. Either way you will know what you have and can then make intelligent decisions as to what to do with it. Give me a call. It will be worth your time.



**Dave Blackhurst** 

801-580-9534

# Pogue Part 3 Highlight



1794 1/2 Cent PGCS 67RB \$940.000.00

1793 S-3 Chain Cent MS-65 RB \$998,750.00



1833 Crushed Lettered Edge 50c PR-65 \$141,000.00

> 1875 Proof 65+ \$3 Gold \$329.000.00



1815 \$5 Half Eagle MS-65 \$822.500.00





## HYLD CONCE 1951

I would like to take time this month to thank our advertiser's in the Mint Master. Their contribution is very much appreciated in their support of our club and hopefully their ads do bring in additional sales at either their places of business or during their participation at our local Utah shows.

In addition to the membership of the club the Mint Master is distributed to quite a few national dealers and other organizations as a courtesy who also see ads from our advertisers. If any of you full or part-time dealers have an special buys or something you would like to a announce don't hesitate to let me know.

### **EDITORS MESSAGE—MARCH 2016**

We have a couple of new advertisers this year, please note Glen Beckstead's ad as well as the ANACS announcement in this edition. ANACS has been present at the last two Utah shows and has announced that they will be in Layton at the upcoming show on April 14-16. If you have anything you would like to have certified make sure you bring it to the show and support ANACS. They usually have show specials so April is the time to get your coins certified

I also want to give special thanks to Dave Blackhurst for his continued support of the UNS. Again this year Dave has paid his dues and ad in mint stamps that are used for mailing of the Mint Master.

Presently the hard copy mailing list for the Mint Master is down to 22 members. The costs for copies and mailing the Mint Master has been reduced in recent years and with the donated stamps we have reduced costs dramatically. If any of you receive hard copies of the Mint Master and would like to receive the 30+ page edition electronically rather than the 10 page mailed edition please let me know.

Again lets all thank our advertisers and visit their stores or coin show tables.



Doug Nyholm

### National Gold Bank Notes/Red Seal



See Nos. 274–286 for face design information.



The gold coin vignette was engraved by James Smillie.

			Notes				
No.	Date	Issuing Bank	City	Issued	Known	VGood	Fine
343	1870	First National Gold Bank	San Francisco	33,000	192	\$ 900.	\$1750.
344	1872	National Gold Bank and					
		Trust Company	San Francisco	17,840	6	1400.	2250.
345	1872	National Gold Bank of					
		D.O. Mills and Company	Sacramento	7,960	26	1250.	2000.
346	1873	First National Gold Bank	Santa Barbara	2,000	10	1400.	2250.
347	1873	First National Gold Bank	Stockton	4,000	12	1250.	2000.
348	1874	Farmers National Gold Bank	San Jose	8,028	28	1000.	1850.

Remarks: The signatures of Allison-Spinner appear on these notes. A total of 3,451 notes are outstanding.

In the past I have included very old coin ads which show rare coins at hardly above face value. This is a page from Gene Hessler's "U.S. Paper Money" from 1992. This is less than 25 years ago and many of you were collecting at that time. Values shown are for \$5 National Gold Bank Notes. While even back then they were a bit pricy today the values have multiplied. My wife purchased a 1870 S.F. note for my Christmas present then for \$1500 and I recently had it certified as a VF-25 making it worth about \$15,000 today. This proves you needn't have started collecting in the 1930's in order to see a significant increase in your collections value!

## UNS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY NAME(S) OF APPLICANTS: ADDRESS: E-MAIL: HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER? E-MAIL / PREFERRED (THIS OPTION REDUCES CLUB EXPENSES) REGULAR USPS MAIL (ADD \$6 TO ANNUAL DUES / (.50C/MONTH) SPONSOR: ANNUAL DUES \$30 FAMILY \$20 ADULT \$5 JUNIOR (<18)

SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 P.M.

COLUMBUS COMMUNITY CENTER - 2351 SOUTH 400 EAST - S.L.C. UT 84115

The Utah Numismatic Society is now enjoying its 64th year serving collectors in Utah. We sponsor an annual coin show held in Sandy which you may have attended. Our monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday in Salt Lake City. We have many knowledgeable as well as novice and beginning collectors in attendance every month.

Our monthly publication entitled "The Mint Master" contains interesting reading featuring articles such as the 'Counterfeit Corner,' 'Book Reviews,' 'Young Numismatists,' as well as many other numismatic news-worthy columns.

Our meetings include Bourse, Auctions, expert speakers as well as our annual "Youth Night" and "Summer Picnic."

We invite you to attend one of our meetings held at the Columbus Community Center, 2351 S. 400 E., Salt Lake City.



